

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Region 9: The Pacific Southwest Serving Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the Pacific Islands, and Tribal Nations

March 2006



Region 9 2006 Priorities

Guiding Principles

- Accelerate the pace of environmental protection
- Focus on achieving environmental results
- Assure compliance through assistance and enforcement
- Ensure environmental justice for all people in all aspects of our work
- Invest in our diverse workforce to achieve outstanding performance
- Promote pollution prevention, environmental stewardship, and sustainability
- Enhance state and tribal partnerships
- Promote innovation and collaboration

Clean the Air

- Improve air quality in high priority areas: San Joaquin Valley and South Coast of CA; Phoenix, AZ; Clark County, NV; US/Mexico Border region
- Reduce emissions from on-road and non-road diesel sources along west coast through West Coast Collaborative
- Improve permit program effectiveness through targeted evaluations
- Increase public access to ambient air quality data
- Achieve air toxics reduction through community based projects which address environmental justice priorities
- Promote energy efficiency through Energy Star and State Clean Air/Clean Energy Partnerships

Protect and Restore the Water

- Promote watershed partnerships and approaches to restore waters via regulatory tools and voluntary methods
- Reduce beach pollution from sanitary overflows and stormwater
- Minimize losses of wetlands acres through permitting and enforcement actions
- Improve state/local stormwater implementation
- Strengthen water quality and wetlands monitoring to assess waters
- Increase compliance with drinking water requirements to protect public health

Preserve and Restore the Land

- Assess, control and remediate contaminated sites
- Promote resource conservation by emphasizing waste reduction, reuse, and recycling and preferable purchasing

programs

- Develop a strategy with China on hazardous waste program development
- Revitalize communities by facilitating clean up of properties for redevelopment and reuse (Brownfields)
- Assist other federal agencies in reducing significant threats to the environment through our National Environmental Policy Act authority (DOT, COE, etc.)

Assure Healthy Communities

- Assist Tribes and Pacific Islands in addressing unmet public health and priority environmental needs, such as safe drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, closure of solid waste open dumps, and waste disposal
- Implement US/Mexico Border 2012 Plan to reduce pollution in air, water and on land; improve public health conditions (wastewater and drinking water); reduce exposure to chemicals
- Focus on San Joaquin Valley to attain measurable environmental results related to agriculture, especially with dairies, by using all available tools, including collaboration with other governmental agencies and the agricultural community, to achieve air, water and human health targets

Ensure Compliance and Enforcement

- Maximize compliance to protect human health and environment through enforcement, compliance assistance, compliance incentives, and performance track
- Improve compliance, pollution prevention, and promote stewardship

Promote Homeland Security

- Reduce and control risks posed by accidental and intentional releases of harmful substances
- Market and communicate our environmental response readiness capability

Enhance Management and Accountability

- Implement human capital strategy
- Implement management systems to ensure priority setting and accountability
- Emphasize information and data management in all our programs
- Allocate resources to align with priorities
- Communicate results both internally and externally
- Continue implementation of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) for Region 9 facilities